



McMaster Divinity  
College

# NEWS LETTER

FALL  
2014



## Hello and Goodbye!

A new academic year has arrived! Activity has increased at the College, as over fifty new program students have followed God's leading to commit to studying at McMaster Divinity College in order to be equipped to lead in the Church,

academy, and society. Please pray for them as they adjust to their studies. Pray also for our graduates—although they have ended their studies, we continue to support them in prayer, so that they will effectively discern God's will for their lives.



## Hong Kong

Xia Xia Xue (Esther), a 2014 Ph.D. grad, came to us after graduating with a M.C.S. and a Th.M. from China Graduate School of Theology (CGST). In fact, CGST, as well as Scholarleaders International and the Langham Trust (and MDC), sponsored her studies here. Esther is now teaching at CGST, Hong Kong, with the understanding that she is continuing to prepare to be of service to people in Mainland China. Esther says, "MDC prepared me for my

present and future services in many perspectives—first, by providing me with appropriate skills in teaching and interacting with students; second, by equipping me to do a high level of academic research, which in turn helps my teaching in the seminary; and third, by strengthening me in the awareness of spiritual formation, so that I can reach out to others, having myself a solid relationship with God."



## A Note from Dr. Stanley E. Porter

The beginning of the academic year reminds us that summer has ended, and a new year has begun. I wish that you could be here with us to experience the energizing atmosphere in the halls as so many eager students get to know each other, support each other, and begin to gain greater insight into God's Word and how their studies will positively affect their ministries. Please feel free to visit us to experience this enthusiasm! However, we also miss some faces that became very familiar to us over the last

few years—our grads, now alumni. We know that God is using them all over the world to reach others for Christ. Please join me in supporting our students and alumni in prayer, that God will sustain them as they work to serve Him. On the back of this page, we highlight several of our new students and recent alumni to give you an idea of the varied reasons why students have been sent to us to study and grow in their spiritual journey. Our wish is that you too experience God's blessing as you seek to serve him.



We asked some of our first-year students and some of our graduating class of 2014 to finish two sentences. The first-years were asked to complete the sentence **"I am preparing for..."** whereas the recent alum were asked to finish the sentence **"I have been called to..."** We are sure that you will be encouraged by how they finish these statements.



### Spencer Adams

Junior High Pastor,  
Forward Church  
(Cambridge, ON)  
M.T.S. Student

...Jesus to captivate the hearts and minds of teenagers.



### Dike Odumuko

Eastern District  
Superintendent,  
All Nations Full Gospel  
Church (Ottawa, ON)  
Ph.D. Student

...enhanced work in the Church and academy.



### Jordan Spoelstra

Canadian Armed Forces  
Officer, Royal Hamilton  
Light Infantry  
M.Div. Student

...the responsibility of raising my two sons by being able to teach them biblical truth!



### Megan Roberts

Ph.D. Student

...the call to teach at a seminary or Bible school overseas.



### Deborah & Rick Arsenault

Bethany Community Church (St. Catharines, ON)  
M.Div. Students

...learning and trusting the Lord to unfold His purpose as we follow through with our passion of third-world prison ministry.



### Timothy Amor

Interim Music Minister,  
First Trinity Lutheran  
Church (Tonawanda, NY)  
M.Div. Graduate (2014)

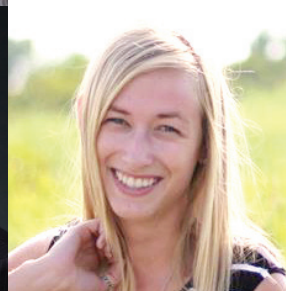
...serve as an interim music minister while seeking a role in full-time ministry as a pastor, following Jesus in how I serve and love others.



### Josh Samuel

Professor of Bible & Theology,  
Master's College and  
Seminary (Peterborough, ON)  
Ph.D. Graduate (2014)

...be thorough in my understanding of biblical and theological scholarship, while also contributing my own views on the Bible and theology for God's glory.



### Nicole Reid

The Community House  
(Welland, ON)  
M.T.S. Graduate (2014)

...share life, love, and hope in my community through a partnership with Faith Welland Outreach and Niagara Regional Housing, known as The Community House.



### Benjamin Tombs

Associate Pastor,  
Unity Baptist Church  
(Red Deer, AB)  
M.T.S. Graduate (2014)

...the associate pastoral position at Unity Baptist Church in Red Deer, Alberta and am involved in preaching, overseeing small groups, discipleship, and administration.



### Francis Pang

Postdoctoral Fellow,  
Biblical Linguistics,  
Exegesis & Translation  
(Hamilton, ON)  
Ph.D. Graduate (2014)

...be a teacher of the Bible, to help others discover the richness and power of the Word.

Save the  
Date!  
President's  
Dinner  
April 2, 2015

How can we  
pray for you?  
Visit  
[mcmasterdivinity.ca/prayer](http://mcmasterdivinity.ca/prayer).

## Our Future is Clear

We have raised \$1 million of the amount needed for our building expansion.

Donate now and help us reach our goals—supporting our students with appropriate study spaces and adequate financial aid.